

CroZworld

"The World of Crosswords in Australia"

www.crosswordclub.org

NR153 JANUARY 2003

"Words are silver, the response is gold".
Proverbial (Swahili)

GRIDATORIAL



The year 2002 has been an *annus fantasticus* for the Australian Crossword Club. We have reached a record number in membership, we have established our website successfully and we continued to bring you Australia's best crossword puzzles.

Thanks to the generosity of member donations, we are pleased to announce that the level of prizes in 2003 has been substantially increased for the puzzles and the quizzes.

To provide a small measure of compensation to the hard-working Adjudicators of Slots 1-5 and to recognise the fact that they are deprived of the opportunity of winning a Slot prize when they adjudicate, we have decided to grant the Slots 1-5 adjudicator the sum of \$50 for each adjudication.

We sincerely thank those who have adjudicated in the past six months: Audrey Ryan, Steve Workman, Bev Cockburn, David Procter, Pat Garner and David Grainger. Thanks also go to the Slot 6 adjudicators: Stef Savanah, Bob Hagan, Bev Cockburn, Steve Workman and Doreen Jones. A special thank you to the wonderful compilers and quizsetters who strive so hard to meet the high standards of puzzledom set by the Club.

We specially mention our hard-working Secretary Bev Cockburn who has made a huge contribution to the success of the Club. To David Procter for his sterling work involved with the printing and distribution of *Crozworld* every month and to Patrick Street for his assistance in formatting the puzzles and quizzes and editing *Crozworld* each month.

Treasurer of ACC: We announce that Steve Workman has replaced Alan Walter as Treasurer of the ACC. Thank you, Steve for taking on this most important task and a special thank you to Alan Walter for his hard work over the years.

Finally, the Executive Committee of the ACC extends to all members and their families the Peace and Joy of Christmas and prosperity and success in the New year.

FROM THE ADJUDICATOR

How the entries rolled in – my PO box has never seen anything like it. Thank you to those members who sent greeting cards, letters and notes. Many members offered sympathy for having to adjudicate at this time of year but rest assured the task wasn't anything as bad as I expected. Those members who proffered suitable bribes have been properly rewarded. Those who didn't might watch for my next stint as umpire and remember that a case of Dimple Haig will never go astray.

Slot 1: TYMPANI was an acceptable alternative for TIMPANI in 19ac. The other stumbling block was 14dn with 13 members submitting HERA for the correct DEVA. Other errors were inventive (eg EARBUGS, TIMBALI) or possible typos (DOMENIC, DOMANIC, MIAICAB, COSYEST, TOBASCO)

Slot 2: It was probably the very crooner in 6dn who sang about the little dogies gettin' along to make their new home in Wyoming. Notwithstanding that, 13 members decided that 5dn was the Venetian magistrate (Doge) and not a motherless calf (Dogy). *Chambers* knows the difference. Several members thought the past tense indicated in 11ac should be updated and suggested SWITCHES. Typos inc. LEGER (1), DOGS (2) and EXCUSE (2).

Slot 3: Much wailing and gnashing of teeth here, with lots of folk deciding this was altogether too hard, but the success rate for those who did submit was good. Some typos (WITHOOT) and blank squares and evidence of inventiveness, particularly the one member who managed to fill the bottom right corner with correctly spelled words that were each incorrect answers. In a spirit of goodwill (perhaps the Dimple Haig) I allowed one entry which had a "C" that perilously resembled a "G" which reminds me to compliment the majority of entrants for their neatness. There are some, however, whose report card has been noted as needing more handwriting practice.

Slot 4: Everyone liked this puzzle and there were no major problems. The blank squares came about mainly through typos (ZEALOTE, XIPHGID, QUULTED) and a couple of lambs who went astray with EDIT and ERIT for EMIT.

Slot 5: Shiver me timbers! There were lots of boats sunk by HITS in 19ac when *Praxis* was looking for BITS. For those who went down with the ship, both *Chambers* and *Macquarie* confirm the meaning. That was the only problem and most solvers obviously enjoyed this one. Season's greetings to all in the ACC and best wishes for successful solving in the New Year.

—David Grainger

LEADING FIGURES

Puzzle No.	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Entries received	88	94	58	94	70	404
Correct entries	68	71	49	86	54	328
Success rate %	77.3	75.5	84.5	91.5	77.1	81.2
Prizewinners	R Taylor	H Conway	D Kennedy	J Kitto	K Williams	From 94 members

LEADING LIGHTS

President	Patrick Street	395 Canning St, North Carlton Vic 3054	☎(03) 9347 1216	pstreet@bigpond.net.au
Secretary	Bev Cockburn	12 Norman St, Merrylands West NSW 2160	☎(02) 9635 7802	bevco@ozemail.com.au
Treasurer	Steve Workman	21 Centenary Rd, Merrylands NSW 2160	☎(02) 9893 9080	Steve@Famill.com.au
Distributor	David Procter	104 Esdale St, Nunawading Vic 3131	☎(03) 9878 7429	daviprocc@hotmail.com

HIGHLIGHTS

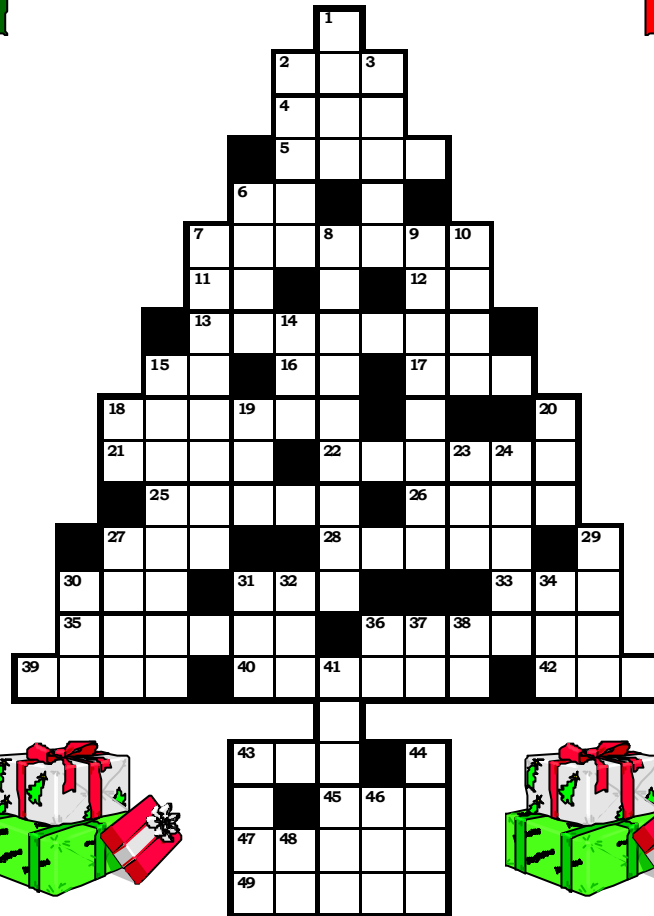
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Christmas Delights
by
Stroz



JANUARY 1 2003



[rrp: \$36.95]

Across

- 2 Vessel for pouring liquids (3)
- 4 Uruguay (*abbrev*) (3)
- 5 Tropical citrus tree (4)
- 6 Chemical symbol for selenium (2)
- 7 Edible maize (7)
- 11 International unit (*abbrev*) (2)
- 12 Iowa (*abbrev*) (2)
- 13 Light, sweet puddings (6)
- 15 Information Technology (*abbrev*) (1, 1)
- 16 Overdose of drugs (*slang*) (1, 1)
- 17 A dark, salty sauce (3)
- 18 Very large prawns (6)
- 21 Style of art 1920-1930 (4)
- 22 House (*Fr*) (6)
- 25 Herb of the onion family (5)
- 26 Type of Indian bread (4)
- 27 Toe (*Scot*) (3)
- 28 Port mixed with hot water (5)
- 30 To make a mistake (3)
- 31 Very warm (3)

- 33 A gentle knock (3)

- 35 Wafers eaten during Passover (5)
- 36 A seaport in Ukraine (6)
- 39 Eats (4)
- 40 Container made of plaited material (6)
- 42 Ampersand (3)
- 43 Used for washing floors (3)
- 45 Cooking utensil (3)
- 47 A turnip (5)
- 49 Dried stalks of corn (5)

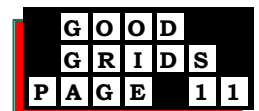
Down

- 1 Type of Indian bread (4)
- 2 A sweet drink, often medicated (5)
- 3 Dish of seasoned okra pods (5)
- 6 Liquid food (4)
- 7 Light green edible nut (8)
- 8 A seasoning (9)
- 9 Dry white table wine (8)
- 10 Word element meaning nose (4)
- 14 To join (*Scot*) (3)

- 15 Vehicles used for delivering frozen water (8)
- 18 South Dakota (*abbrev*) (1, 1)
- 19 Me (*Fr*) (3)
- 20 A small hotel (3)
- 23 See (past tense, *obs*) (3)
- 24 Kilns (5)
- 27 A snare (4)
- 29 To bridge (4)
- 30 Flightless Australian bird (3)
- 31 Fireplace shelf (3)
- 32 Order of St Augustine (*abbrev*) (1, 1, 1)
- 34 Amateur Swimming Association (*abbrev*) (1, 1, 1)
- 36 All correct (2)
- 37 Delaware (*abbrev*) (2)
- 38 Chemical symbol for ethyl (2)
- 41 Light evening meal (6)
- 43 A medley (4)
- 44 Cook food by simmering (4)
- 46 A room in a harem (3)
- 48 Weight (*abbrev*) (2)

Send Solutions to:

- Slots 1-5: Jim Colles, PO Box 600, Rye Vic 3941.
e-mail: jimcol@pac.com.au
Closing mail date: Tuesday 21 January 2003.
- Slot 6: Stef Savannah, 24 Wyvern Avenue, Chatswood NSW 2067.
e-mail: stef_savanah@optusnet.com.au
Closing mail date: Friday 7 February 2003.



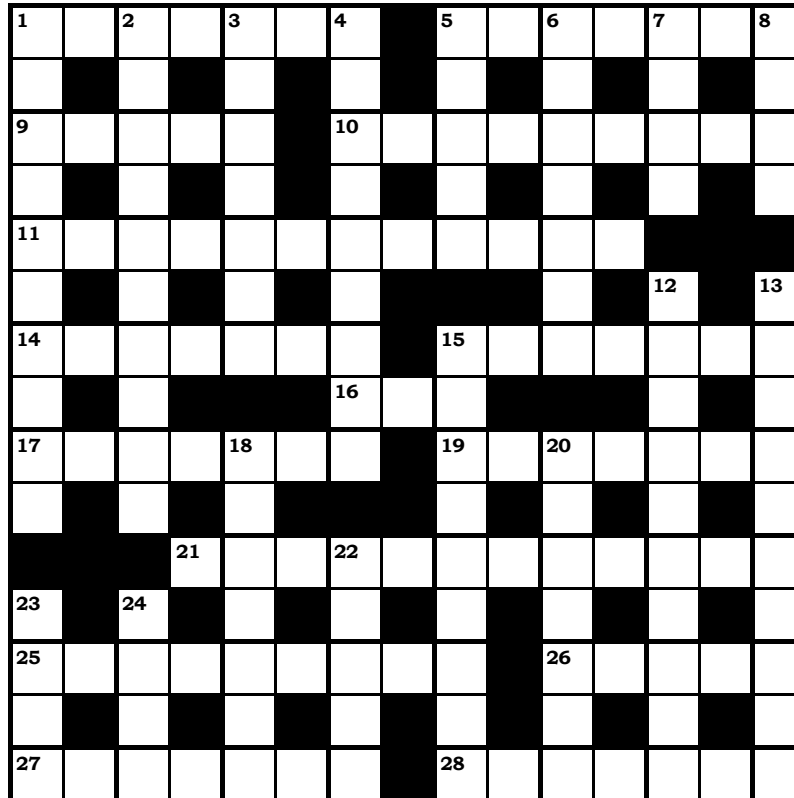
CRYPTIC
by
Noel Jessop



JANUARY 2 2003



Prize
\$75



Across

- 1 Artist and model changed title (7)
- 5 Recovered everything in wild ride (7)
- 9 Keg company reconstruction reveals a lizard (5)
- 10 Clubs stay calm, somehow, in debacle (9)
- 11 Dicky traces keener track (7, 5)
- 14 Like an aria about outback poet? (7)
- 15 As far as ship and another vessel can accommodate a drinker (7)
- 16 Haggard woman named before (3)
- 17 Thinks English is crazy dialect (7)
- 19 Rabble-rouser detailed musical direction? (7)
- 21 Developing muscles making passenger compartments? (4-8)
- 25 Works with nude devotee (5, 4)
- 26 Right hand in love of money (5)
- 27 A city in depression, overlapping in two ways (7)
- 28 Discovered King Kelly? (7)

Down

- 1 Bird, bird, southern birds (5-5)
- 2 Withdrawals concerning sittings, say (10)
- 3 Doctor bowling stockmen (7)
- 4 Almost came up with new Shinto garment (9)
- 5 Spinner takes gold up over hill (5)
- 6 Holds round royal cupboards (7)
- 7 The Italian starts to yell about a Russian (4)
- 8 Made off with a woman (4)
- 12 A quiet separation loses time in appearance (10)
- 13 Keep firm possession (10)
- 15 Almost weepy about dogmatic conclusion raised in small measure (9)
- 18 Stage of culture one runs on maturity (4, 3)
- 20 Indisposed, yet start on drowned valley in an old Adriatic region (7)
- 22 No guy upset in early years (5)
- 23 Party no good at the sound of the bell (4)
- 24 Plot against English historian (4)



From Brian Symons:
A.Word.A.Day

"The A.Word.A.Day website is familiar to many: visit <http://www.wordsmith.org/awad/>. It is now a book. There are many such books on the market but in my opinion this is the best. It has more than 50 short chapters on different themes, each discussing 5 words in a friendly, informative way. The book is not expensive and would give composers a few ideas and entertain all. You can find it on the www.amazon.com website priced at US\$10.47."

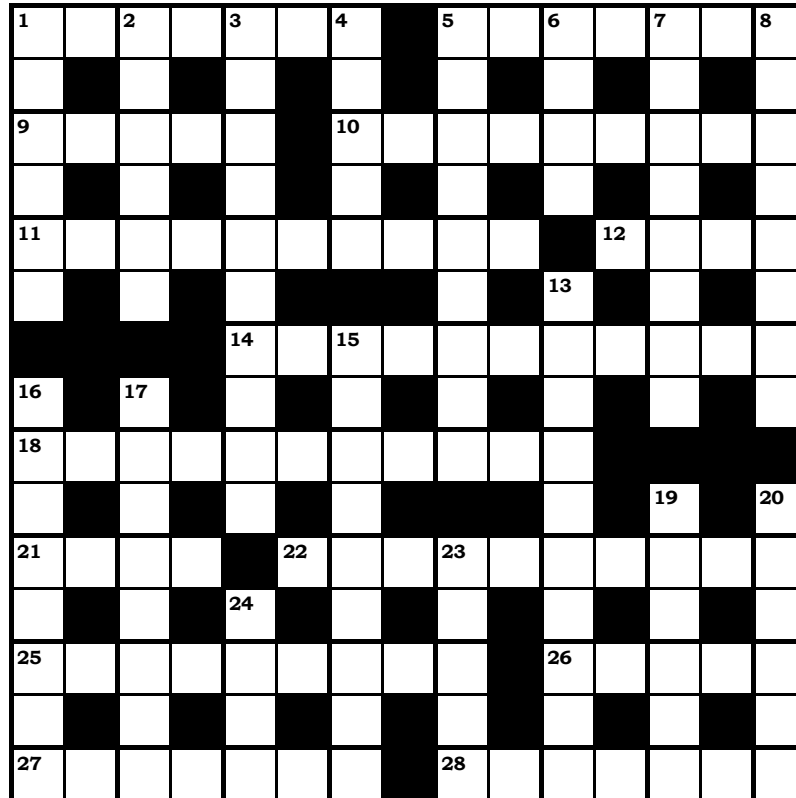
**Cryptic
by
Southern
Cross**



JANUARY 3 2003



**Prize
\$75**



Across

- 1 Red ribbon Anzacs wore, partly for good luck (7)
- 5 Strengthened naturally when coupled with math. function (7)
- 9 Strip magazine? (5)
- 10 Rambo, loveless American, returns in English vessel (9)
- 11 A note on party date-change made lengthy explanations (10)
- 12 Just one letter is forwarded from Erebus to Command (4)
- 14 It came out, pulse racing, something capturing the way we were (4, 7)
- 18 What Rosemary stands for on this November day (11)
- 21 This could be responsible for a stroke of bad luck! (4)
- 22 An unworthy presentation of *Vanity Fair* (5, 5)
- 25 Examples given in various positions (9)
- 26 Jeremy's golf clubs? (5)
- 27 Awfully angered! (7)
- 28 Inactivity of one with detached retina (7)

Down

- 1 A second sponsor (6)
- 2 Stunned at seeing a banded anteater (6)
- 3 Pen to me, if changed at the last minute (4,2,4)
- 4 Confused, in the main (2, 3)
- 5 One taking orders has done scuba training (9)
- 6 Ancient seaman vehemently against the doctor's orders? (4)
- 7 A danger to aircraft without deviating around Erebus initially (8)
- 8 Read out Emir's translation – it's even more fantastic! (8)
- 13 Disappointed, Bill gets the minimum the auctioneer will accept (5, 5)
- 15 Doctor goes up to the river for fish (6, 3)
- 16 Canberra's absorbed in costing exercise (8)
- 17 His job is to provide relief (8)
- 19 Habit of touring around (not in the north) (3-3)
- 20 Foreign hostess worked out his age ... (6)
- 23 ... American, rising, worked out his menu option (5)
- 24 Light brown string has a pungent smell (4)

Max Roddick, an observant member from Victoria, has pointed out that the list of contributors' names in the latest edition of *Chambers Anagrams* appear to be anagrams themselves. Max has solved three of them: Marc Oven-Gnu is Una McGovern, Sarah Czech-Winter is Catherine Schwarz and Zac Wherpster is Peter Schwarz; but what is an anagram of 'Naomi I Caravan-Park'? As Max says: "What name could be better than Ms Caravan-Park?" Perhaps Marcia Ivanana-Pork, Annamaria Kirov-Pac, Vicki Rana-Panorama, Marian Ovarian-Pack? Any ideas? E-mail: pstreet@bigpond.net.au

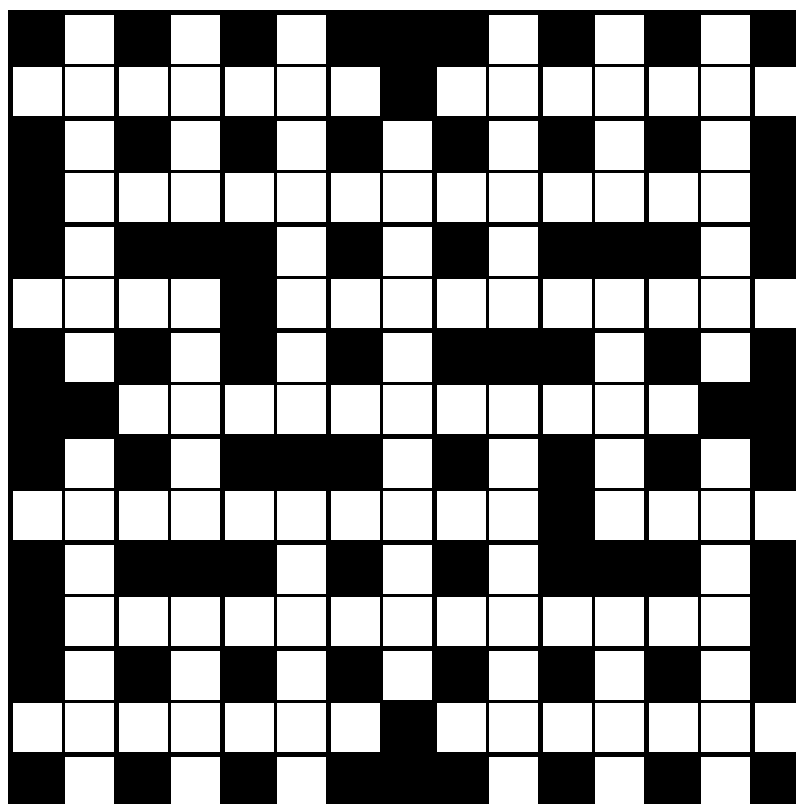
**Christmas
AJ
by
Virgo**



JANUARY 4 2003



**Prize
\$75**



Fit the answers where you can. All answers begin with the leading letter.

- A** Commercial poem Eliot composed having fallen on hard times (11)
- B** Russian straightens shovel and gets bits out (10)
- C** Noel lights up with it! (9, 4)
- D** Entrance to act, alternatively a passage (7)
- E** A spike, a switch and a creeper-crawlie (6)
- F** Head first to a smörgåsbord of seats at a banquet (6)
- G** Questionably costing a speculative believer (7)
- H** Musical locks (4)
- I** The effects of a stamp on charged particles (11)
- J** Hoot at the Queen and myself in Paris changing places (4)
- K** Katherine shortly performed *The grasshopper* (7)
- L** Composer heard the roll-call (4)
- M** Our times are a-changing to fog (8)
- N** Brazil, interactive, gives food (8)
- O** Headless crows found in ovens (5)
- P** Fish allow for crumpet (7)
- Q** "Popper!" a baby says. Duck! (7)
- R** Verily lent ear to change venerably (13)
- S** A musical starring Julie Andrews who is one (4)
- T** Rips Deist to shreds (5)
- U** Rust red, one structure is still dilapidated (10)
- V** Endorsement for half a dozen to do to a southern state (4)
- W** Carol singing (ex-spanker) (7)
- X** Hair disease marker reaching across a continent (7)
- Y** A Christmas record brought out after dinner (4, 3)
- Z** Find some energy in the last dance set (4)

LEAK STEW!
by
Colinebrii



JANUARY 5 2003



[rrp: \$75]

All unclued answers have something in common.

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10
11							12				
13				14							
15								16			
17					18	19			20		
21	22										
			23	24			25				
26								27		28	
29				30		31		32			
33											
34					35						
		36									

Across

- 1 Female takes abnormal pain in the selection of pastry cake (10)
- 11 (7)
- 12 Voluptuous woman spends time with the compiler (5)
- 14 Aaronite deranged by exposure to the action of air (8)
- 15 Boxer and small Scot discover plant (6)
- 16 (4)
- 17 First course, then second course? Hawaiian goose of course (4)
- 19 The crook part of seventeen consists of hydrogen and carbon (6)
- 21 Will's plague arrived at an excellent time (8)
- 24 The external layer of epiblast and so on, curiously has nothing on true skin (8)
- 26 Knotty? Certainly without taking prescription (6)
- 27 (4)
- 29 Trembling before a shot? First you instinctively play safe (4)
- 31 Leaser for life, a period alternatively (6)
- 33 Besotted admirer with a fantasy consumed by first rapture (8)
- 34 Reformed rake takes on Northern Thai person (5)
- 35 (7)
- 36 Know-all adept at taking a drink by the creek (5, 5)

Down

- 2 Polish the French coin (5)
- 3 Element of State in old Idaho (8)
- 4 (4)
- 5 Gained weight with my award (6)
- 6 Have a hair do, dine, then be last to pass through (8)
- 7 Israeli King expressing joy to first born (4)
- 8 Not going to church the first year. Gearbox not operating smoothly (6)
- 9 Complainer said to have produced cockney woman (7)
- 10 (10)
- 13 (10)
- 18 Sense organ receiver (8)
- 20 Always have extra unceasingly (8)
- 22 Love the space where Al looks like a cackleberry (7)
- 23 Religious follower soul said to have turned between maiden overs (6)
- 25 Take tea say in a time after intoning the sacred syllable for the code of silence (6)
- 28 Just a metric foot, and I am on a century (5)
- 30 (4)
- 32 Genuine coin (4)

From Brian Symons:

MORSE CODE

Inspector Morse and his creator Colin Dexter are cryptic crossword devotees and fans especially of *The Times* and Ximenes. The following 5 clues actually appear in the Morse books and perhaps members might enjoy them. Answers next month.

- 1 Stiff examination (7)
- 2 Kick in the pants (3, 5)
- 3 Bradman's famous duck (6)
- 4 Gerry-built semi is beginning to collapse in such an upheaval (7)
- 5 Take in bachelor? It could do (3)

Treasure Hunt Trilogy [Part 3]



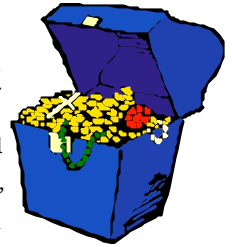
JANUARY 6 2003



Prize

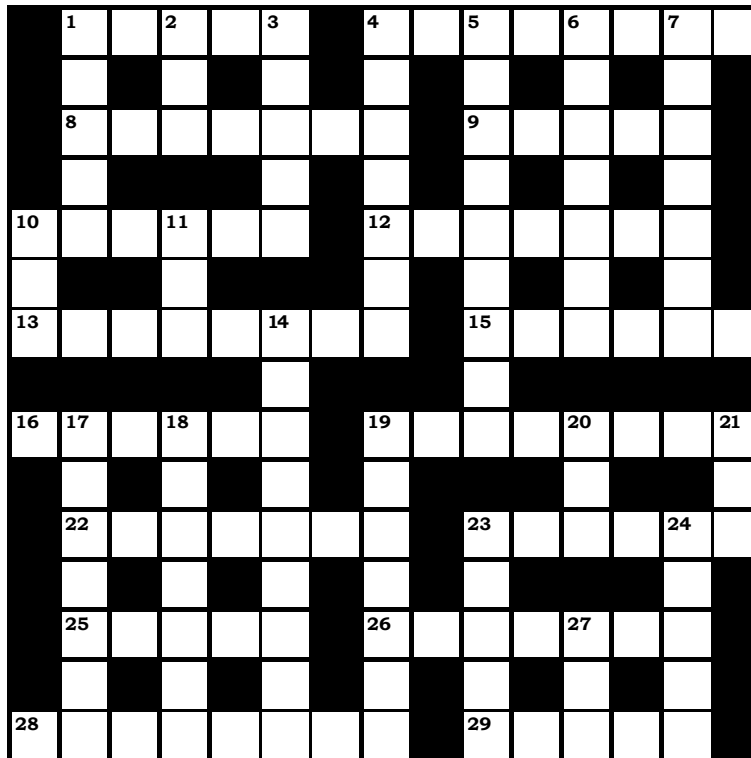


This is the third and final part of the Treasure Hunt Trilogy. Combine the three completed grids to discover the location of the 'buried treasure' (bonus prize of \$100 kindly donated by the setter). If you discover the solution to the location before the closing mail date (7 February 2003), send it with the completed grid (or separately) to Pundit for a chance to win the bonus prize (drawn from a hat). If no one discovers the location solution by 7 February 2003 then the 'treasure' will actually be buried in the specified location and will remain in place until someone discovers the location and fetches the 'treasure'.



\$75

by **Pundit**



Across

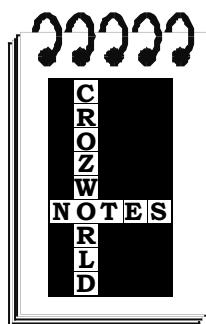
- 1 Place melodies going back over year (5)
- 4 Striking employee gains a little (8)
- 8 "This minute!" is "within minutes" to little 'uns (7)
- 9 Dessert's ready! We tuck in (5)
- 10 Bloodsucker's plot to harass ... (6)
- 12 ... escapee: she hears Aussie distress signal (7)
- 13 Gus grabs snake, which finally drops shaken Dan - such animals in South America! (8)
- 15 Vacant girl's taken in by heartless guy (6)
- 16 Before backing me (example: getting rid of test), primary teacher's on side of head (6)
- 19 Spycatcher finally encounters fake attaché. Bond again! (8)
- 22 Oven's visible in poorly run cafe (7)
- 23 Play outside partially spent and you'll get exposure (6)
- 25 Core of coven would be smashed if fronted by saint (5)
- 26 Lessened bureaucracy? The other way around! (7)
- 28 Resolve my Canada problem: ... (8)
- 29 ... It's hell! Abscond initially by ship? (5)

Down

- 1 Leaderless Frenchman headed south, getting to river (5)
- 2 & 3dn After lead article, yearn to leave (3, 5)
- 3 see 2dn (5)
- 4 Before putting down cards, keeps tears away (7)
- 5 Missing things lost again? Dreadful! (9)
- 6 Imaginative upscale mirrors (7)
- 7 Clothing taken front to back (7)
- 10 & 11dn In Westminster honour winds up in bin (3, 3)
- 11 see 10dn (3)
- 14 Acne areas prepared for medical procedure (9)
- 17 Twisted iron melted and flowed out (7)
- 18 Function for every class (7)
- 19 Penniless groom to attempt repossession of premises (7)
- 20 & 21dn Piece of music in that musical (3, 3)
- 21 see 20dn (3)
- 23 & 27dn One positively beaming! (5, 3)
- 24 In Morocco despot rules (5)
- 27 see 23dn (3)

Post solution to:

Stef Savannah,
24 Wyvern Avenue, Chatswood NSW 2067
e-mail: stef_savannah@optusnet.com.au
Closing mail date: Friday 7 February 2003.



From Doug Butler:

As an old kudoka (judo player) I was intrigued by Alan Walter's contention that he could find no reference to TATAMI being acceptable as a plural, as for us 'twas ever thus.

So I checked in my little library: OED 1999 ed. has four very clear citations as its own plural (1880 I.L. Bird, 1957 New Yorker, 1974 Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1976 P Quennell) two with -S. My Collins Dictionary (Electronic 1995) gives both. Merriam Webster 3rd edition ditto.

MEMBER NEWS

A warm welcome to new members **Carol Cowan** from Sutherland & **Allan Castle** from Castle Hill, NSW and **Steve Trollope** from Capalaba, Qld. Happy Crozworlding!

Acknowledgement: Many thanks to *The Courier-Mail* for kind permission to publish Cryptic by *Southern Cross* (January 3-2003).

Puzzle Adjustments: Carolyn McCusker gained a tick for October Slot 6 (On the Road Home). David Procter gained a tick for November Slot 4 but lost a tick for Slot 3. Daryl Ikin gained a tick for November Slot 3. Chester Chance gained ticks for November Slots 1, 4 and 5. Please note that Quiz No 7 (December *Crozworld* p9) is included in the cumulative quizzes for 2002. In Q5 for "1935" read "1939"; in Q12 for "Emile" read "Emil".

And here is another **Mondegreen**: There's a hymn with the line "weak and sinful though we be"...

After a well-catered Sunday School picnic, the children rendered it "We can sing, full though we be!"

—Max Roddick



CRAZY CONFUSING CHRISTMAS CAROLS & SONGS by Tobi



Send your entries on a separate sheet to: Barbara Ibbott, 29 Boiton Hill Road, Norwood, Launceston. Tas. 7250 or by e-mail to: bjibbott@hotmail.com
Closing mail date: Friday 10 January 2003. Prize \$50.

- 1 Quadruped with crimson proboscis
- 2 Miniscule hamlet in the Far East
- 3 Adorn the vestibules
- 4 Listen, aerial spirits harmonizing
- 5 Yonder in a trough
- 6 O hallowed post meridian
- 7 Argent tintinnabula
- 8 It befell during the transparent bewitching hour
- 9 I merely desire a pair of incisors for Noel
- 10 5pm to 6am without noise
- 11 The initial Yule
- 12 Exuberance directed to the planet
- 13 Monarchical trio
- 14 Assemble everyone who believes
- 15 I have fantasies of a colourless Noel
- 16 A dozen 24 hour Yule periods
- 17 Homo sapiens of crystallized vapour
- 18 I spied my maternal parent osculating a fat man dressed in red
- 19 Perambulating through a freezing season's fantasy
- 20 Ourselves bid yourselves a joyous Noel and a cheerful neoteric 365 days

Roger Squires, who has set nearly 59,000 crosswords has set one of his hardest puzzles yet – a 3D teaser that is part of an online treasure hunt expected to take gamers up to a year to crack. Read all about it at: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/2410185.stm>

CROSSMAS CRUCIVERBAL 2002

33 keen crossworders gathered for this exciting annual event held at the Bruce County Motel, Mt Waverley (Vic). Familiar faces included David Procter, Marge and Philip Pope, Hilary Conway, David Fuller, Cheryl Wilcox, Denis Coates, Elva Gould and Dot Mortensen. We were delighted to welcome new members Max Roddick, Therese Savannah, Roger Manning, Paddy Mitchell and John Villiers. Betty Cumming (who came from her hospital bed) received a wonderful reception on arrival. The atmosphere was convivial and cheerful and the food (including turkey and plum pud) was excellent. Books donated by Patrick were auctioned and raised \$300 for the ACC Prize Fund 2003. Many thanks to Valerie Howard for organising such a memorable event.

**PRIZE SCHEDULE:
From January - June 2003**

Puzzle No 1: The Macquarie Concise Thesaurus (hard-back \$36.95rrp) each month, the winner to be selected at random from all correct entries received on or before the closing mail date by the Adjudicator.

Puzzles 2-4 and 6: \$75 each puzzle each month, the winner to be selected as above.

Puzzle No. 5: Oxford Crossword Dictionary (\$75rrp) each month, the winner to be selected as per Puzzle No. 1.

Cumulative Puzzles 1-5: \$2000 for the first six months as follows: 1st=\$325; 2nd=\$300; 3rd=\$250; 4th=\$225; 5th=\$200; 6th-10th=\$140 each. In the event of a tied score, the prize money will be divided equally between those sharing that score.

Cumulative Puzzle 6: \$600 for the first six months to be divided equally between those solvers sharing top score.

6 Quizzes: \$75 each Quiz to the member with the top score. Where more than one member shares top score, the winner to be selected at random by the Adjudicator from those members.

Cumulative Quizzes: \$600 per year as follows: 1st=\$150; 2nd=\$125; 3rd=\$100; 4th=\$90; 5th=\$75; 6th=\$60. In the event of a tied score, the prize money will be divided equally between those sharing that score.

NOTES: (1) "Closing mail date" means that entries must be received by the Adjudicator on or before the postal mail delivery on the date specified each month in Crozworld. This includes any entries which may be sent electronically via e-mail. Any entries received after that date will not be eligible to gain a 'tick' or to qualify for a prize.

(2) Only current financial members of the Australian Crossword Club are eligible to win prizes in 2003.



Cricket clue by RE Boot:

Which Chappell brother came first in the order? (9)

Answer: Gregorian



Margaret Cudmore



We were saddened to hear of Margaret Cudmore's untimely death on 8 November after a long battle with leukemia. Margaret had been a member of the ACC since 1991 and was a keen and successful solver. As Margaret's daughter Judy said recently: "I know she really enjoyed being a member of the club and loved the puzzles each month." We extend our sincere condolences to Margaret's husband and her loving family.

December 1 – 2002 – Half & Half by Noel Jessop

- Straightforward enough, but wording of clues at 14 and 18dn do not seem to tally very well with the words that I feel are the correct answers. *Irene Watts*
- Crossword 1 should be straightforward in order to reinforce members' confidence. *Margaret Raw*
- ... I can't say that I really like the No. 1 puzzle turning into a mixture of straight/cryptic. Let's maintain one straight clue puzzle. *Barbara Ibbott*
- Noel's ½ + ½'s are always enjoyable. *Ted O'Brien*
- As usual, good honest clues. *Doreen Jones*
- I enjoyed Noel's ½ + ½ – I find I do the down clues first – they're easier. *Catherine Hambling*
- 19ac – in *Chambers* under the entry for TIMPANO, kettledrums can be spelt TYMPANI or TIMPANI [agreed, and both variants allowed – DG]. Thanks Noel for a challenging slot 1 puzzle. *Alan Walter*
- Noel's cryptic clues were perfect for the No. 1 puzzle, similar clues for the rows would be appreciated. *Roy Wilson*
- I don't understand the first part of the clue to Batmobile "Bee in Alabama port in the". Mobile is Alabama's port but what is the indicator for bat? *Daphne Titus-Rees*
- I found this a bit tough for No. 1 but eventually completed it. *Catherine Foster*

December 2 – 2002 – Cryptic by Virgo (Audrey Austin)

- Good! A couple of crooners to help the puzzling along and a nice selection of amusing clues for plenty of smiles in this enjoyable cryptic. Audrey always obliges. *Irene Watts*
- A good puzzle. Some of the longer answers had me scratching my head ... *Barbara Ibbott*
- Audrey's 28ac was terrific. *Ted O'Brien*
- 4dn is a bit of a worry – if "darkening" is correct, it's not a good clue. 19ac "line" and 18dn "recline" both have "queue" as clues – it would have been better to change 19ac – many many words would fit the bill. *Doreen Jones*
- A mixture of some very ordinary clues and some very clever ones (eg sheik, darkening, excise and heats). *Brian Symons*
- What makes a good clue? Don't know, but I enjoyed OLIVIER. *Doug Butler*
- A good cryptic from Audrey as usual. *Catherine Hambling*
- Quite a mind stretcher! Thanks *Virgo*. *Alan Walter*
- I loved Audrey's clues for 12ac, 28ac and 21dn in particular. More of them please Audrey! *Roy Wilson*
- My three favourites for this month! EXCISE, SHEIK and CROONER all very clever. *Daphne Titus-Rees*
- Good one by Virgo. 16dn was clever. Clues are spot on – no tricks! *Catherine Foster*

December 3 – 2002 – An Unfairy Tale by Cactus (Jim Colles)

- I would have sent my entry earlier but have been racking my brains over "Cactuses" slot 3 for a week! ... I cannot fathom most of his clues – for example how does "GOT ON" equate with "aged" (assuming "aged" is the correct answer). Words such as "INHOOPS" and "INDUE" should not be used at all unless their archaic or Shakespearian status is indicated in the clue. I won't be bothering with his puzzles in the future. *Peter Dearie*
- This could be entertaining, but without some guidance on how to approach it, it is a NO NO for me. *Irene Watts*
- Let's get away from these "smart" clues and silly stories. Please get back to plain good cryptics! *Margaret Dennis*, (commenting on both Slots 3 and 5 – DG)
- "Ahhh! *Cactus* is a nut", Solomon said wisely. I wonder what the answers will be for 2dn and 11ac. *Bev Solomon*
- Slot 3, 8dn: shouldn't there be an indicator of letters up, or around? *Roy Taylor*
- What with "inarmed", "inhaled" and "inhoods" this was the "in" puzzle of the month. *Ted O'Brien*
- ... No. 3 ... I found quite difficult. Is 4ac an anagram? If so, of what? I just don't understand 2dn. And 5dn is surely rather confused, ie I take it "red", "embarrassed" and "strips" but the clue does not indicate that "red" is reversed. *Margaret Davis*
- A wonderful puzzle providing hours of enjoyment. *Brian Symons*
- Is INDUE the solution for 26dn? If so, I'd love an explanation! *Doug Butler*
- This puzzle is without doubt the crossword of the year – the most devious and challenging clues and the most satisfying to solve. *Catherine Hambling*
- A veritable mine of prickles from *Cactus* ... 26ac INDUE, which is obsolete ... should be indicated. By Jiminy, your "Unfairy Tale" proved to be very challenging, thanks *Cactus*. *Alan Walter*
- A wonderful puzzle Jim. Stretched me to the very limit of my solving ability – and I loved every minute of it. *Roy Wilson*

December 4 – 2002 – AJ by Southern Cross (Shirl O'Brien)

- Alphabeticals are enjoyable and so are puzzles by Shirl, so this gave me a double dose of pleasure. I loved the C and D words. *Irene Watts*
- *Ximenes* & Roy wouldn't approve of all the anagrams but they get my approval espec. at this time of year. *Joan McGrath*
- What a clever C clue! Had a little trouble with the M, V and H but I'm finished and am happy. *Barbara Ibbott*
- Chockablock full of good clues! *Ted O'Brien*
- Wasted a lot of time with ELLE before EMIT came out. *Doug Butler*
- An excellent AJ from Shirl – there's rarely any controversy with clues. *Catherine Hambling*
- Thanks Shirl for this jiggling JIGSAW. *Alan Walter*
- Excellent puzzle, Shirl. I especially liked your B, C and R clues. *Roy Wilson*
- AJ – loved it! *Catherine Foster*

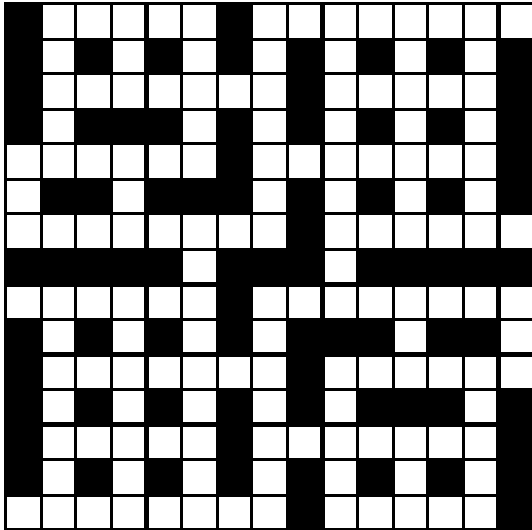
December 5 – 2002 – Heeelp!! By Praxis (Roy Wilson)

- This puzzle is too complicated for me, especially when solving time is short. *Irene Watts*
- 19ac "bits". I just don't understand what is the definition ... *Doreen Jones*
- If crosswords are unusual – an instance is Dec. 5 – an example should be given with instructions. *Margaret Raw*
- *Praxis* has created a work of art. I loved it! *Roy Taylor*
- Another double answer possibility here in 19ac ... *Ted O'Brien*
- Very clever indeed, as we always expect from Roy. The clues are gems! *Shirl O'Brien*
- Another wonderful *Praxis* treat. *Brian Symons*
- This was great fun to complete and as in No. 4, you can have confidence with your solutions. *Catherine Hambling*
- Roy your DLM puzzle was another Delightful Lot of Mindbenders from the Ximenean master. Quite a novel approach to storytelling in two chapters! I eagerly await the ensuing chapters. *Alan Walter*
- Put it in the "too hard" basket, took it out – couldn't leave it alone. Just as well time didn't run out on me – I'm so glad I completed it! Great stuff by *Praxis*. *Catherine Foster*



Send solution to: Stef Savanah,
24 Wyyern Avenue, Chatswood NSW 2067.
Closing mail date: Friday 7 February 2003.

JANUARY 6 2003

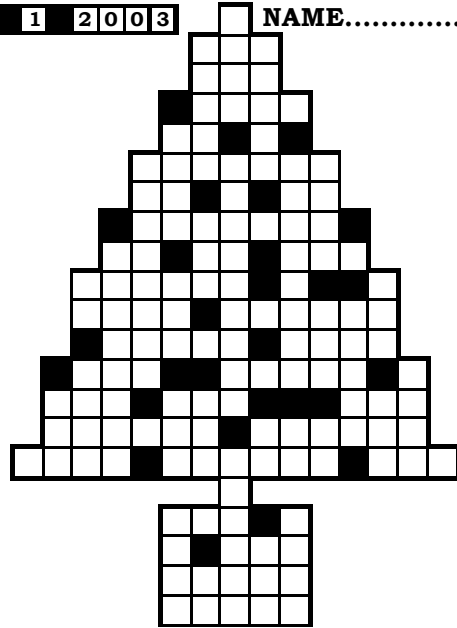


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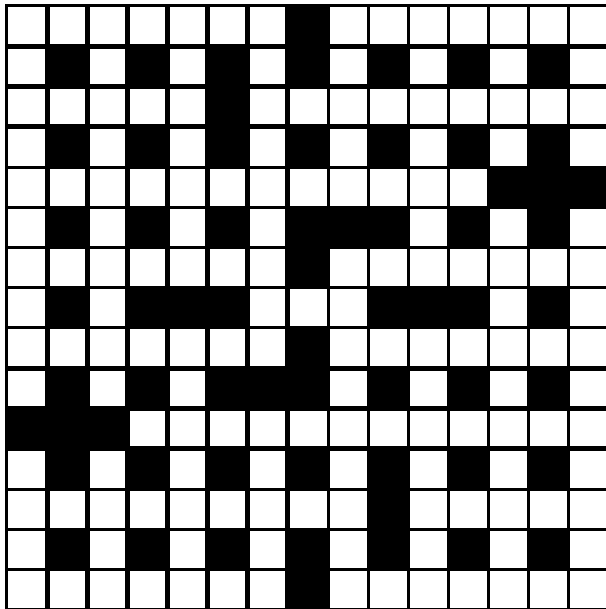
Location of Treasure

JAN 1 2003

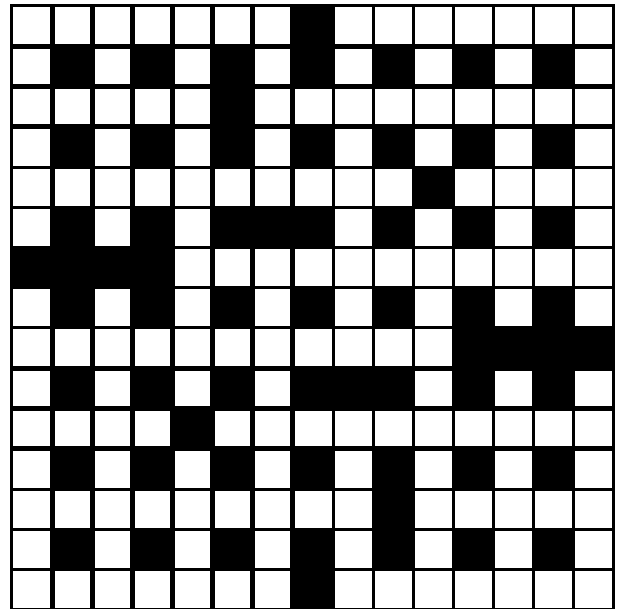
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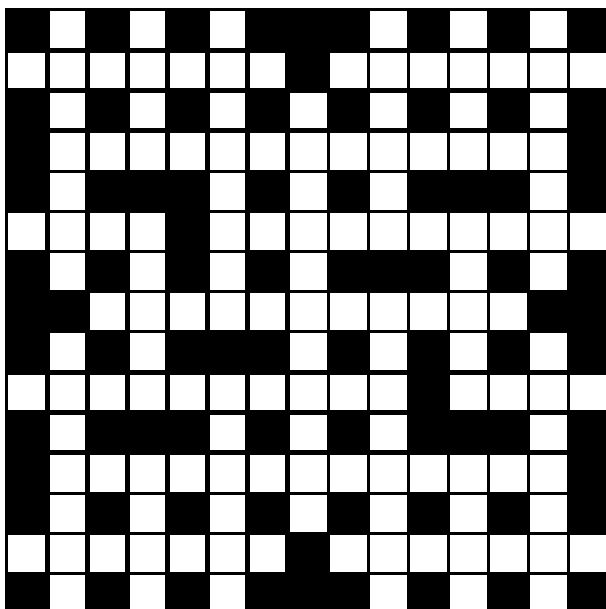
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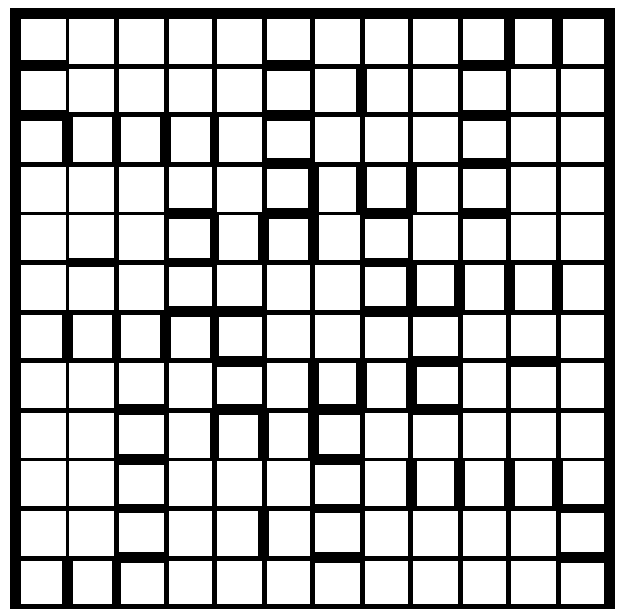
JANUARY 3 2003



JANUARY 4 2003



JANUARY 5 2003



November 6-2002 - Treasure Hunt Trilogy (Pt 2) by Pundit (Stef Savanah)

Entries: 60. Correct: 27. Success rate 45%. Prize Winner: Daphne Greening. Congratulations!

Member's Comments:

- "The games afoot" I see. I wonder what the third instalment will bring. *Bev Cockburn*
- A few wild guesses here. Confidence is not high. *Geoff Campbell*
- AT LAST!!!! Some very clever clues. I am doubting my sanity but I am looking forward to No. 3. *Joan Smith*
- BAHIA GRASS? Can't verify this anywhere. And as for SAY UNCLE it's a wild guess. I can't wait to find out how the treasure hunt works! *Margaret Galbreath*
- Boy, you sure know how to get the 'little grey cells' ticking over. I especially liked the phrases scattered throughout the puzzle. 'SAY UNCLE' took me back a few years, I can tell you. *Roy Wilson*
- Could you explain the clue 36dn please? *Audrey Ryan*
- Have some troubles with the puzzle - haven't been able to find BAHIA GRASS, SAY UNCLE (I've just made that up) and don't think CURATE is well defined. Can't imagine where it's all leading. *Shirl O'Brien*
- I am not very confident about this but enjoyed it nevertheless. *Valerie Howard*
- I certainly have made heavy weather of part 2 of the trilogy. Clues for 26dn & 40ac had me completely baffled. Finally saw the light on 26dn (I think) but I can't really cotton on to 40ac. Particularly how it relates to the previous clue. *Jim Colles*
- I couldn't find BAHIA GRASS in any of my reference works. An ellipsis is usually used to indicate a connection between the preceding & the following clues; I can see no such connection between 39ac/3dn and 40ac. There must be a better clue for CURATE. Finally, I'm not too happy about 'quiver' to clue for 'purr'. Apart from these few quibbles I quite enjoyed your puzzle. *Margaret Davis*
- I do enjoy these No. 6 by Pundit. Can't wait for 3rd edition when all will be revealed - hopefully! *Eva Seale*
- I don't like CURATE but I can't find any other word that even vaguely fits. You haven't made it easy. *Aileen Skillicorn*
- I had a lot of trouble with the bottom RH corner and the grid was not much help. Thank you for your novel idea, it has given me a great deal of pleasure working out the answers even if some of them did not come easy. *Ron O'Rourke*
- I have been agitating over RAMJET and TANJET and have finally plumped for the former on the grounds that BUFF is certainly not TAN but could be short for BUFFET (i.e. RAM). *Catherine Hambling*
- I have had terrible trouble with 40ac and have put in CURATE although I don't quite get it! Cannot understand the ... from the previous clue. I am looking forward to part 3 when all will be revealed (I hope). *Doreen Jones*
- I really liked 10ac, 43ac, 8dn & 36dn but wasn't too happy about 40ac. *Jill Freeland*
- It took me ages to find SAY UNCLE. I then decided to look up 'mission' in thesauri, but it was a wastage of time. I had to think why HUMANE instead of CURATE - penny dropped. *Bev Solomon*
- Just guessed 40ac and 26dn - I had not much of an idea what was intended. *Bob Hagan*
- Looking forward to puzzle 3 and the Quest. *Del Kennedy*
- Really got stuck on 40ac. If the answer is CURATE I would expect a question mark. *Mal Cockburn*
- Thank goodness for Websters. *Brian Symons*
- Thank you for another great puzzle. I had not heard of the expression SAY UNCLE to show that you will submit. However I assume it is part of an American children's game. *David Procter*
- Thanks for the great challenge. I don't feel I'm getting any closer to the 'treasure' but we'll see if No. 3 will shed some light on the matter. *Betty Siegan*
- Thanks for the puzzle. It's a long time since I heard "uncle!" Thought 'debriefs' was a great clue. *Bill Bennett*
- What a treasure chest of surprises your slot 6 puzzle provided! 15 & 23 ac BAHIA GRASS could not find this in any of our standard club dictionaries, similarly with 28dn & 35ac, SAY UNCLE, again no reference to this phrase which can be used when someone is twisting your arm to a point of causing submission. Much liked your BAN+JO, GO+ANNA and DEBRIEFS! (Not so happy about NON-OIL in 32dn = NONO+I+L. Can't find reference to this). Many thanks for part 2 of this trilogy. I look forward to your location of the buried treasure, ho ho ho and a bottle of rum! *Alan Walter*
- What can I say but 'Oh! Stef'. *Daphne Greening*

Compiler's Comments: Thanks for the letters, cards and feedback. Some explanations... 36dn: Defn = quiver blissfully; virtuous = PURE; if resistance (R) finally dropped for sweetheart (E); 26dn: Defn = protective gear; wind = GAS; hide = MASK; 4dn: Defn = plane; buff = FAN; gemstone = JET; 39ac & 40ac: the ellipsis was meant to link the surfaces - choppers (helicopters) and mission. Please refer to the ACC website for a full explanation of all clues. Good luck with part 3!
-Pundit (Stef Savanah)

NEWS:

BOOK PRIZES IN 2003: We are delighted to announce that both The Macquarie Library Pty Ltd and Oxford University Press have agreed to sponsor Slots 1 and 5 for 2003. These sponsors have kindly donated the Macquarie Concise Thesaurus and the Oxford Crossword Dictionary for each month in 2003. Those lucky members who have already won a copy of these books know how good they are for solving crosswords and quizzes. In 2003 there will be more lucky members! Many thanks to Macquarie and Oxford for their generosity to the ACC.

RESULTS OF JULY-DECEMBER 2002 CUMULATIVE SLOTS 1-5: Perfect score (30): Bev Cockburn, Mal Cockburn, Margaret Galbreath, Brian Symonds, Alan Walter and Roy Wilson. With 29: Bill Bennett, Ann Jermy and Carole Noble. Congratulations!

THE CROZWORLD COMPENDIUM 2002: This Compendium has been printed and looks just great! It features 35 crosswords of all types and two quizzes. Three of the crosswords have prizes of \$75 each attached and the closing mail date is 31 March 2003. At only \$6 per Compendium, this must be the best value crossword puzzle book available. If you would like to order copies, contact our Treasurer Steve Workman.

FROM DAVID GRAINGER: In my introductory remarks about myself I had asked about Scots/English dictionaries. **Alan Walter** suggests that "there are at least 2 Scots/English dictionaries available. Chambers: The Concise Scots Dictionary (edited by Mairi Robinson) published by Aberdeen University Press [which] I obtained ... from Dymocks [and] The Scots Thesaurus edited by **Iseabail Macleod** also published by AUP .. **Patrick Street** mentions *Scoor-oot*, a Dictionary of Scots Words and Phrases in Current Use by James AC Stevenson, 1989, The Athlone Press. "Scoor-out" means the custom of scattering coins at or after a wedding to be scrambled for by children. 'Scoor' corresponds to the English 'scour' and is used in the sense of to scatter, to throw in all directions. In 1967 an Edinburgh church magazine commented that 'the increasing volume of traffic today make the traditional scoor-out a hair-raising experience.'

DONATIONS TO THE ACC PRIZE FUND 2003 ARE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED FROM: Sonia Atkinson, Doug Butler, Kev Layton, Carolyn McCusker, Edna McGloin, Paddy Mitchell, Beatrice Murphy and Brian Tickle. Special thanks to Doug Butler for his generous donation to the ACC website maintenance fund.